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CHINA

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25X1 [redacted] incidents of violence such as occurred in Peking on April 5 have been fairly widespread throughout the country. The debate in Peking over Teng's fate and related issues, in addition to creating confusion and dissatisfaction, has exacerbated long-standing local factional tensions. This appears to have led to virtual paralysis in some local governments and social disorder.

The disruptions are still far less severe than those that occurred during the Cultural Revolution and the campaign to criticize Lin Piao and Confucius in 1974. Nevertheless, they have been sufficiently widespread to prompt Peking to issue at least two central directives on the subject and numerous orders to tighten discipline and increase vigilance against sabotage. Indecision in Peking on how to cope with the problem may, in part, account for the lack of concrete guidance on how to deal with national and regional officials who had been closely linked to Teng.

Numerous provincial broadcasts have implied, and at least three have admitted, that incidents similar to the riot in Peking have occurred in the provinces. The incidents were also connected with the Ching Ming festival and may have originated as expressions of support for the late premier Chou En-lai.

In an unusually forthright description, Honan radio revealed that one local official was killed in the provincial capital, Chengchou. Nonviolent demonstrations of support for Chou, and by extension Teng, have occurred in other provinces, including Kiangsu and Kwangtung.

The wall posters in Kiangsu were especially noteworthy for their implicit attacks on leading radical leftists who have been behind the current campaign. The Kiangsu incident apparently became the subject of a central directive ordering the removal of the posters and an investigation of the affair.]

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LEBANON

Leftist leader Kamal Jumblatt yesterday called for another postponement of the presidential election, which is now scheduled for tomorrow. Jumblatt, who has already caused a week's delay, again cited Syrian interference as his reason for the postponement.

Unless Jumblatt is prepared to resort to violence, he may not be able to upset the schedule this time. The general mood in parliament is to proceed with the vote as long as there is adequate security.

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This eleventh-hour pressure might persuade Jumblatt not to disrupt the convocation of parliament, but he probably will not participate himself without significant concessions from the Syrians. Jumblatt wants, but has little hope of getting, a public commitment from Damascus that Syria will begin withdrawing its troops from Lebanon, and he has almost no chance of pressuring the Syrians to withdraw their support from presidential contender Ilyas Sarkis.

Sarkis appears to have regained some of the votes he lost earlier this week when a large bloc of parliamentary deputies launched an unsuccessful campaign to find a compromise candidate. Many of the deputies have shifted back to Sarkis, who has accumulated close to the majority of votes he needs to win after the first ballot.

Jumblatt has not yet submitted a formal request to the speaker of parliament, and may only be laying the groundwork for a boycott. He heads a bloc of only eight to ten deputies, and their boycott would not in itself thwart parliament. It would, however, seriously undermine the effectiveness of the newly elected president, and would provide a pretext for others to spark new violence. Interior Minister Shamun, moreover, has only reluctantly agreed to participate in the election, and he may now seize on Jumblatt's call as justification for reconsidering his own position.

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The success or failure of Jumblatt's latest move will depend largely on whether the Syrians and Palestinians can enforce the uneasy cease-fire in Beirut despite his defiance. Palestine Liberation Army troops have extended the buffer zone between the warring factions in the port district to other areas of the city and have succeeded for the moment in silencing the heavy artillery on both sides. Like so many other periods of calm in the capital, however, this one could be disrupted by only a handful of extremists.

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PORUGAL-AZORES

Partisan political concerns are complicating the controversy over Azorean autonomy.

The two representatives of the centrist Popular Democratic Party on the Azorean regional junta resigned Wednesday to protest unacceptable clauses in the provisional autonomy statute approved last week by the Council of Ministers in Lisbon. In particular, they view one clause denying voting rights to Azorean emigrants and another concerning the balance of representation in the regional assembly as devices of the Socialists on the Council of Ministers to try to erode Popular Democratic dominance in the archipelago.

The four remaining regional junta members appear to be treating the autonomy issue cautiously, although they publicly renounced the statute on Wednesday and warned that they would not be held responsible for any trouble that may arise if it is not changed. They claimed that, following a phone call from junta leader General Altino de Magalhaes, Portuguese President Costa Gomes agreed to review the document. An Azorean delegation has been dispatched by the junta to Lisbon to open talks leading to a revision.

Lisbon has tended to back down in earlier confrontations with the islands, but its inclination this time is uncertain. Failure by Lisbon to revise the statute would sharply increase pressure on the remaining junta members to step down. This could lead to public demonstrations, which Azorean Liberation Front extremists would almost certainly try to capitalize on.

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GREECE

Greek leftists appear to be stepping up their opposition to the US military presence in Greece

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On April 29, unidentified leftists reportedly sponsored an anti-US demonstration near a US air force site on the island of Levkas, off the west coast of Greece. The demonstrators called for the complete removal of US forces from Greece.

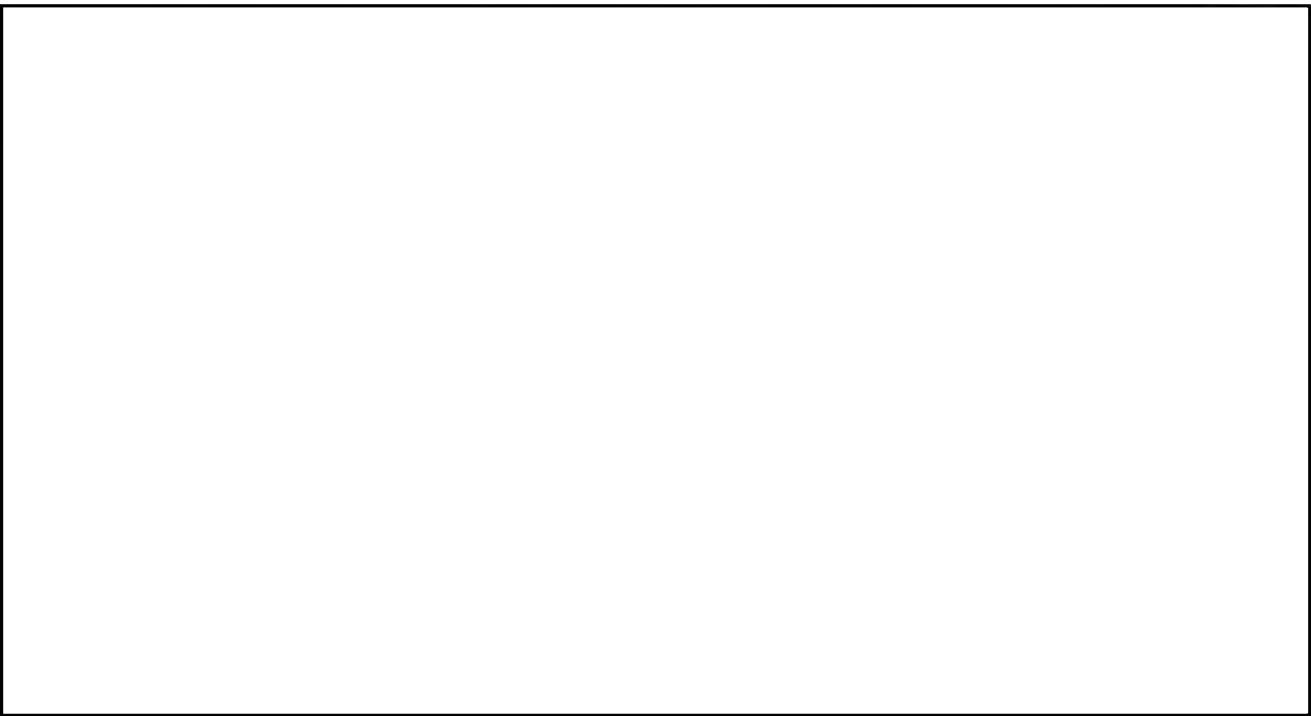
These activities may be part of a leftist campaign against the Caramanlis government's signing of a defense agreement with the US and its resumption of talks on the US military presence in Greece. Leftist opposition seems unlikely, however, to have any measurable effect on the Greek government's commitment to preserve defense relations with the US.

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RHODESIA

Rhodesia's secondary rail line, which links the country with Botswana and South Africa, was attacked by guerrillas yesterday. A communique released by the Smith government in Salisbury says that the rail line was sabotaged near the Botswanan border, but that damage was minor and the line was repaired without disrupting traffic. There has been no previous guerrilla activity in this area.

Last month, Rhodesia's principal rail connection with the outside world was the target of two guerrilla incidents. That line, and the one through Botswana that was attacked yesterday, have carried almost all of Rhodesia's foreign trade since early March, when Mozambique imposed its embargo on Rhodesia, preventing use of the most direct rail outlet to the sea.

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USSR-CUBA

General Secretary Brezhnev and senior party ideologist Suslov met several times in Moscow this week with Cuban First Vice Prime Minister Raul Castro. Moscow has described the meetings as "cordial and comradely"—a formulation generally used to suggest some disagreement—but has shed no light on the substance of the talks.

Castro represented Cuba at Defense Minister Grechko's funeral on April 29 and also used the visit to continue talks on several outstanding issues. Topics almost certainly included future strategy regarding southern Africa and the disposition of Cuban troops in Angola, in light of the anticipated visits to the USSR later this month of Angolan President Neto and Mozambican President Machel.

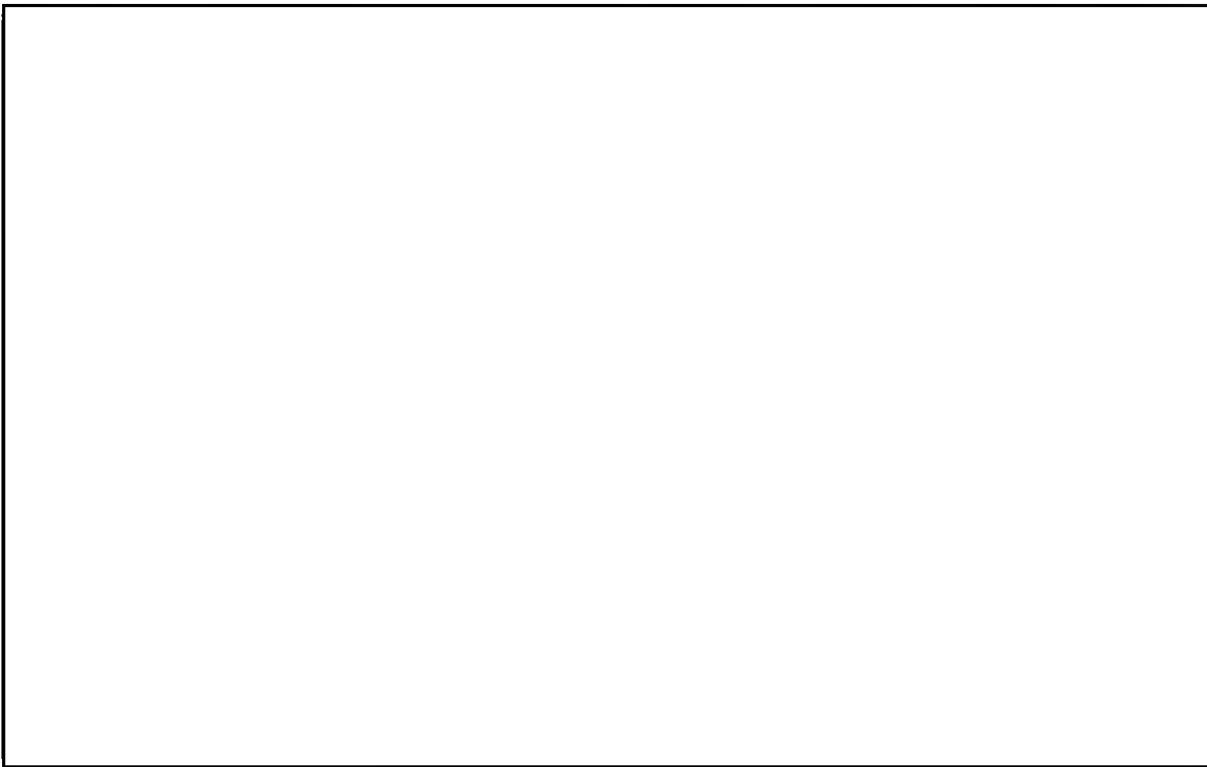
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INDIA-PAKISTAN

India and Pakistan are scheduled to begin talks on May 12 in Islamabad on several issues, including possible restoration of diplomatic relations—severed during the Indo-Pakistani war in 1971. Other topics to be discussed include resumption of civil air links, restoration of rail and road links, and review of existing agreements on trade, travel, and shipping.

If successful, the talks will mark the first progress in over a year under the 1972 Simla agreement, in which both sides agreed to resolve outstanding problems through bilateral negotiation. Although the two countries remain deeply distrustful of each other, they reached agreement last month to hold a new round of talks after Pakistani Prime Minister Bhutto, in a letter to Indian Prime Minister Gandhi, offered to withdraw a claim against India filed in 1971 with the International Civil Aviation Organization.

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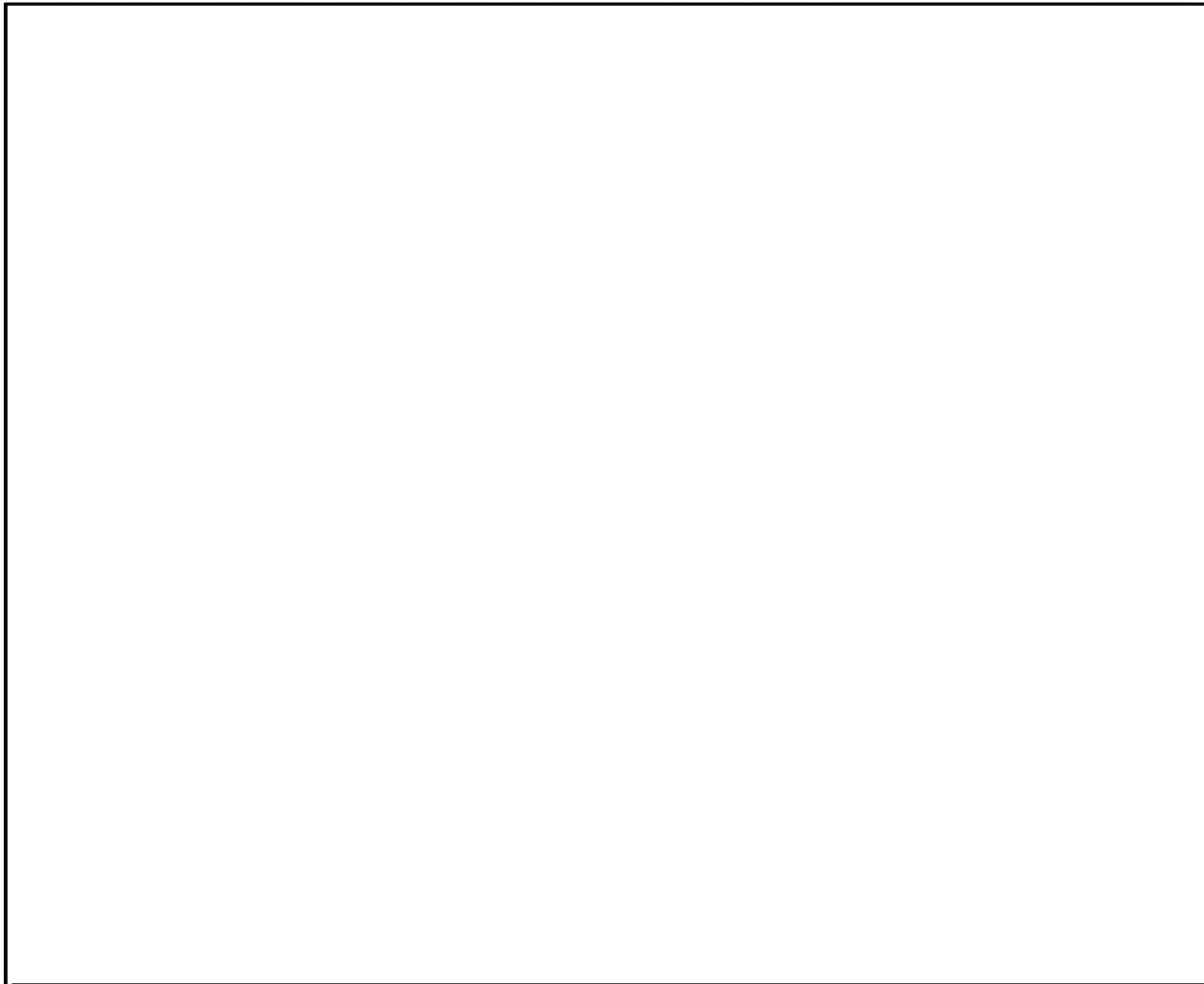
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PANAMA: The two US tuna boats that were confined in the Canal Zone for over a week were allowed to leave unmolested Wednesday night. Panamanian chief of government Torrijos backed off from his original plan to charge the boats with illegal fishing and to fine them \$100,000 each. The boats were allowed to leave after purchasing retroactive licenses—based on tonnage, for about \$20,000 each—permitting the boats to fish in Panamanian waters for six months. Torrijos now faces the delicate, self-made problem of explaining his actions to the Panamanian public.

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